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Marien Christopher

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Eiko SEKI, et al.

Serial No.: 09/994,573

Filing Date: 26 November 2001

For: METHODS FOR PRODUCING PROTEIN

DOMAINS AND ANALYZING THREE DIMENSIONAL STRUCTURES OF PROTEINS BY USING SAID DOMAINS Examiner: Hope A. Robinson

Group Art Unit: 1653

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein, mailed 20 August 2003, time for response to which was set to expire 20 November 2003. A petition for an extension of time of two (2) months until 20 January 2004 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. The considered claims, claims 1-7 and 10-14, were rejected. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.